

Arguments/Remarks

In the Official Action mailed November 27, 2007, the examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372 as to the following groups of claims.

Group I, claims 1-12 and 28-30.

Group II, claims 13-19 and 28-30.

Group III, claims 20-25 and 28-30.

Group IV, claims 26-30.

In response to the restriction requirement applicants hereby elect, with traverse, to prosecute Group III, claims 20-25 and 28-30 on the merits. Further, claims 2-7 have been amended such that they depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 20, and claim 28 has been amended to depend solely from claim 20. Accordingly, claims 2-7, 20-25 and 28-30 represent the elected invention.

The examiner has also required that applicants elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits. In response to the requirement, applicants elect, with traverse, a metal ion exchanged zeolite catalyst comprising at least one non-zero valent metal ion, wherein said non-zero valent metal ion is Pd^{2+} . All of claims 2-7, 20-25 and 28-30 either specifically, or generically read on the elected species.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph J. Mancini", is written over a light gray, textured rectangular background.

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